

# Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

August 6, 2023 † The Transfiguration of the Lord



## THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. - Mt 17:1-2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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**8404 CASS AVENUE  
DARIEN, ILLINOIS 60561**

*Parish Phone Number: 630-852-3303*

*Religious Education Phone Number: 630-963-3053*

### MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday - 4:30 PM**

**Sunday - 8:15 AM - 10 AM - 12 Noon**

**Weekdays & Saturdays - 9 AM**

**Holy Day Eve - 7:00 PM Holy Day - 9 AM - 7:00 PM**

*(Call Office to verify Mass times)*

**Church Office Hours: Monday through Friday,  
from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

**RECONCILIATION: Saturday 3:15--4PM**

### Parish Mission Statement

We are the Church, alive with Christ, a diverse community rooted in faith, celebrating a liturgy of life. We are prayerfully responsive to the Spirit of the living Gospel, freely and fully ministering to all.

### PARISH STAFF

Rev. Jeff Smialek, O.Carm., Pastor

[frjeff@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:frjeff@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

Rev. Greg Houck, O.Carm., Parochial Vicar

[frgreg@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:frgreg@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

Rev. Robert Carroll, O. Carm., Ph.D.

Priest In residence

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Deacon Guadalupe Villarreal

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Val Kazich, Admin Asst., Registrar, Religious Education

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August 6, 2023

## From the Pastor's Desk

Today is August 6, the Feast of the Transfiguration. This is one of the few feasts that overrides a Sunday. If August 6 falls on a Sunday, then we celebrate the Transfiguration. The three disciples go up the mountain with Jesus and he is miraculously changed in front of them and is seen in conversation with Moses and Elijah. After this experience, Jesus enters Jerusalem to ultimately face his death. But first, he gave the disciples a glimpse of the glory to come if they stay faithful. Jesus continues to give us a glimpse of the glory to come every time we celebrate the Eucharist and love one another. Our teens recently attended the Notre Dame Vision Conference. We generously supported them and raised over \$2,000 through popcorn sales. This allowed the teens to attend the conference at no personal expense. What a blessing! I thought our parishioners would like to hear from one of our teens about the conference and what they learned.

*During my time at the Notre Dame Vision retreat I was blessed with the opportunity to listen to accomplished speakers. I was able to learn their stories and was given the opportunity to understand the way they lived their life. I was given the opportunity to experience a candlelight procession to the Grotto. I also met other high schoolers like myself and we were able to bond under the guidance of our small group leaders. This retreat was an excellent opportunity for my peers and I to find new ways to grow and nurture our faith. We were able to use this retreat as a moment to pause, think, and reflect on the lives we have been living. This retreat provided a great way to slow down my summer that felt like it was going by too fast. It taught me to be more present in the moment, to always remember my faith and to strive to be an example for my friends and family. Throughout the retreat I was able to meet many other high schoolers throughout the nation. It was a surreal experience to get a glimpse into what life is like for different people throughout the country. I want to thank our youth group leader Stephaine for organizing this trip for my fellow high schoolers and I. We want to thank everyone in the community who helped us fundraise this trip with the purchase of popcorn and donations.*

*Gerry Bauer*



## Readings for the week of August 6, 2023

**Sunday:** Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9

**Monday:** Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mt 14:13-21

**Tuesday:** Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13/Mt 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14

**Wednesday:** Nm 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29a, 34-35/Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23/Mt 15:21-28

**Thursday:** 2 Cor 9:6-10/Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9/Jn 12:24-26

**Friday:** Dt 4:32-40/Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21/Mt 16:24-28

**Saturday:** Dt 6:4-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51/Mt 17:14-20





### ***Cathy's Corner— The Ears That Hear God's Second Chances***

The children of Israel were getting a second chance. Once more the Lord commanded Moses to present himself on top of Mount Sinai with two stone tablets. On them would be written the commandments the Lord had engraved on those that Moses had broken in his wrath over their worship of the golden calf. Indeed, Moses had placed the meeting tent, the place of divine presence, outside the camp to remind the people that their sinful behavior resulted in the Lord withdrawing from their midst.

But at the Lord's direction, once again Moses made the climb, laden with the two cumbersome slabs. To him the Lord cried out the Lord's mercy and graciousness, proclaiming the Lord's fidelity even to these people who had already strayed in wickedness and in sin. On their behalf Moses begged forgiveness. In response, the Lord reiterated the covenant promise. And this time it was Moses who wrote it all down. A new beginning offered by the God of second chances. Some would take advantage of the opportunity immediately, some as time went on, and some never.

As Jesus described in his explanation of the parable of the weeds, those second chances keep being offered as we grow and change in the field that is our world. Some people are the wheat that always follow closely the commandments that lead to the kingdom. Some are the weeds that want nothing more than to take what they desire from everyone else. Some, one may daresay most, are a combination of wheat and weed, sometimes led into sin by the Evil One who thrives on division and fear and sometimes fertilized by seeds of love sown by the Son of Man. No determination as to the final bloom is made, announced Jesus, until the harvest by the angels of God. Then the righteous who availed themselves of God's second chances will shine like the sun. But those besmitten by the advantages of acquiescing to evil will wail in anguish.

Let us not pretend that those advantages are not plentiful and easy to obtain. It becomes very easy to think we did not create institutional racism, even if we benefit greatly from it, financially and socially. Or to justify our dehumanization of the homeless and the poor by arguing how hard we worked to get where we are, regardless of the privileged place from which we began. Or to voraciously consume products made inexpensive by a labor force denied the dignity of a fair wage and often experiencing long hours and abusive conditions.

But our harvest is not yet here and God's second chances abound. We can prune the weeds of disregard for all the people who continue to be harmed by how we are benefited. We can grow the wheat of advocacy and discipline that foster a world where we live simply so others might simply live. We can begin again every day, in every way we open our eyes to see where another person, another group, another nation is made to exist in constant want and then do what we can to change that for the better. The God of second chances never ceases giving us the opportunity to do so. May ours be the ears that ever hear Jesus' cry to take advantage of each and every one.

*Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Ps 103:6-7, 10-11, 12-13; Mt 13:36-43*



**Our Lady of Peace** with  
**Our Lady of Mount Carmel**  
invite you to be *Nourished in*  
*your caregiving ministry*

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**Caring for a loved one is rewarding,  
BUT it is not always easy.**

**Family caregivers need *infor-*  
*mation*, *strength* and *connection*  
during the caregiver journey.**

***Let us provide that for you, all with  
a Christ-centered view.***

**NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 12**

**8:30 am to 10:00 am  
at Our Lady of Peace**

*Thrive· Empower· Advance·*

**Cathy Lentz at 630-852-3303 ext 5 or [cath-](mailto:catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)  
[arine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)**



**MISERICORDIA  
HEART OF MERCY**

## **MISERICORDIA WOMEN'S LEAGUE *NEW MEMBER MEET AND GREET***

Are you interested in joining a friendly group of women  
(age 21+) who enjoy working together and supporting the mission of Misericordia?

Come to our Wine and Cheese social gathering and learn more about the Misericordia Women's League!

Wednesday August 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.  
( Social Gathering at 6:30 p.m.)  
9 Gateway Lane, Oak Brook

Contact Janet Meyer at 630.222.4660 or [jmcilella@gmail.com](mailto:jmcilella@gmail.com)  
for more information.

**TAKE YOUR  
CATHOLIC  
FAITH TO THE  
NEXT LEVEL**

"KEITH'S POWERFUL TESTIMONY IS RELATABLE,  
JOYFUL, ENTHUSIASTIC AND TRULY, AN AUDIENCE  
MAGNET! HIS PASSION FOR THE FAITH IS CONTAGIOUS."  
— MARILYN LANE, CO-FOUNDER CHRIST OUR LIFE CONFERENCE

**KEITH NESTER** is a former Protestant Pastor and Catholic Convert. He is a Catholic speaker, author of the popular books *The Convert's Guide to Roman Catholicism: Your First Year in the Church* and *Unpacking the Mysteries of the Rosary*. Keith also has a popular YouTube channel, podcast, and leads an online prayer group "The Rosary Crew" which has prayed the Rosary daily since March 16th 2020. The Rosary Crew spans the globe with more than 5000 people praying from nearly 80 countries. Through the ministry Down to Earth, Keith continues to use his preaching gifts to speak in Churches and events about faith, theology and his journey to Catholicism.

Inviting all 20s + 30s adults  
Drinks + appetizers  
**August 17, 2023**  
7 p.m.  
with renowned speaker  
Keith Nester

Blanchette Catholic Center  
Courtyard  
16555 Weber Road Crest Hill, IL  
QUESTIONS?

Contact Jessica  
[jkrieter@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:jkrieter@dioceseofjoliet.org) or  
(815) 221-6192

**THEOLOGY  
ON TAP**  
**2023 Summer Event**



## RE NEWS

Our next Family Mass is on Sunday, August 16.

We are looking for you and your family to help with the readings, greeting, gift bearers, and ushers. Email Sherry if you would like to participate.

### Questions of the Week:

**Question for Children:** How do you show that you listen to Jesus?

**Question for Youth:** How does your faith in Jesus as the Son of God affect your life?

**Question for Adults:** When have you had a “transfiguration” experience? What was it like?

### Activities of the Week

Place a cross near the entrance of your home. Talk together about how this symbol serves as a reminder to listen to Jesus and allow him to transform your life. As family members enter and leave your home, you will be reminded to love God and others as Jesus did.

With the more relaxed schedule of summer, this is a perfect time to invite another person or family to join your family at Mass or another parish event. Talk together about whom you might invite. If appropriate, invite the person or family to Mass followed by breakfast or lunch together.

### RE 2023-2024

We are now taking registrations for the 2023-2024 RE Year. Classes start on September 10. Check out the website <https://www.ourladyofmtcarmel.org/childrens-religious-education> for more info. We also can use your help!

### HELP WANTED

Have you ever thought of being a Catechist? Well, we are looking to train and mentor a few good people to help us with our program.

In addition, we are looking for “Room Moms and Dads” who will start the children off with attendance and a simple work sheet or craft at the beginning of class. This only requires 15-20 minutes of your time. All materials are provided. Please contact the RE office if you are interested.

We are also looking for a few dedicated individuals who would be interested in helping Children with Special needs through our CHRISTOS program. We have a few families interested, and we need a team to help reorganize this great program. Call Sherry for more info.

### Save the Dates

Want a taste of what VBS was like? Join us (and all our campers) for a reunion, Family night out on August 24, at 6:00 PM-It just so happens to be Shooting Star Day!

Call the RE Office for info and to register as we will need supplies.

We are going to be hosting a retreat day for People who care for persons with disabilities on Saturday, September 23. While this retreat will be for the caregivers, we will have sessions for your children and adults you are caring for. Call the RE office for more information.



**Mary Anne Trochim**     **James Curley**  
**Julie Ann Lacey**     **Barb Schunk**  
**Kim Hoover**     **Loren Davis**  
**Jeanette Seebock**     **Nancy Kososki**  
**Bridget Gallmeier Raineri**     **Nancy Jisisju**  
**Kevin & Jenne Gallmeier**  
**Bill Haran**     **Susan Nugent**  
**Evelyn Swartz**     **Abby Grace McCarver**  
**Jean & Mark Boyd**     **Allen Raineri**  
**Jamie Carpenter**     **Diana Clohecy**



Sgt. Ryan Thomas Lavine, Army  
 SPC Jonathan Poynton  
 Joe Barker  
 Sgt. J. Bartlett Pvt.  
 Cpl. Joseph Belgis, USMC  
 Wayne R. Zefeldt, Army  
 S. Sgt. Michael Mullahy  
 Ryan Pertile, Army  
 Major Thomas Bessler  
 Mike Noonan  
 Adam Kowalski, Army  
 Capt. James Lucas US Army  
 Sgt. Greg Burnett  
 Sgt. Meghan Callham, USMC  
 Ron Caruso Jr.  
 Specialist Drew Stocks  
 Christine Christensen, USAF  
 Lt. Joseph A Vacek, USMC  
 Colin Cusack  
 Michael Sklodowski, Army  
 Nick Radziwon, US Navy  
 Gwen Zemaitis Baker  
 James Lucas US Army  
 Capt. Melissa Sprague  
 Capt. Mark Sprague  
 Zach Wallace  
 James Chipman  
 Keith Thomas  
 L.C. David Treadwell  
 Timothy Vaughn, USAF  
 Zachary Bell  
 Christopher Johnson USCG  
 Sgt. Eric Kuchta, Army  
 Pvt. Dylan R. Hagan  
 Danielle Monahan SrA

ENS Allison Early, NAVY  
 CPO Michael Early, USMC  
 Elliot Broccardo, USMC  
 Lindsey Johnson  
 Diahann Bavan  
 Ronan Randy S. BA.SAT-U.S.Navy  
 Derek McCarthy  
 Joe Michalski  
 Steve Baker, Lt  
 Luke Fluder  
 Pfc Drew Hillebold, Army  
 Vincent Napoli, USMC  
 Nikolas Horskey, Army  
 Lt. Col Jason O'Neil, USMC  
 Capt. Tim Wilson  
 Rachael Smith  
 Kevin Pope  
 Dave Rawlings  
 LCpl Daniel Holakovsky, USMC  
 Tom Reiter  
 Nathaniel Rozgo  
 Robert DeMatio  
 Frank Andrew McKenna, Navy  
 Captain Jackson Panice  
 Ryan Snyder  
 Capt. James Lienau  
 Sgt. Kevin Gallmeier Jr.  
 Pat Gill Petty Officer  
 Brian Sheenhan, Army  
 Joseph Higgins  
 Gary Hogan  
 Kevin Hornett  
 Dan Eugene Bavan  
 Dan Walters  
 Alex Erkiens  
 Capt. Michael K. Desmond, Jr., USMC  
 1st Lt. Mark Marten, US Army  
 Ted Cook

### **Mass Intentions for the Week**

#### **Saturday, August 5, 2023**

**4:30PM** Joseph McCue (McMahon Family)  
 Theresa & Lawrence Kowalski-living (Family)

#### **Sunday, August 6, 2023**

**8:15AM** Don & Nick Brescia (Nick Rocco)

**10:00AM** Theresa Kang-living (Family)

**NOON** Paul Lang (Family)

#### **Monday, August 7, 2023**

**9:00AM** Rose Storino (Family)

Michael Sislow Jr. (Mom & Jerry)

Bartolomeo Pinto (Family)

Adriana, Stefano & Vincent Bongiovanni (Family)

Theresa Kowalski-living (Family)

#### **Tuesday, August 8, 2023**

**9:00AM** Romeo Manuel (Family)

Avelino Tutor (Andrea)

Carmella Morelli (Family)

Rose DeGrazia (Granddaughter)

Theresa Kowalski-living (Family)

John Maoloni (Family)

#### **Wednesday, August 9, 2023**

**9:00AM** Theresa Kowalski-living (Family)

#### **Thursday, August 10, 2023**

**9:00AM** Dr. Cornelio Casalang (Friends)

#### **Friday, August 11, 2023**

**9:00AM** Frank Opyt (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Mary Catherine Gallagher (Monahan Family)

Nancy Bauer (Family)

#### **Saturday, August 12, 2023**

**9:00AM** Ida Munin (Eugene Munin)

### **SAVE THE DATE**

Parents and caregivers of those with disABILITIES are invited to attend the Diocese of Joliet's first-annual retreat on Saturday, September 23.

Two sessions will be held (9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.) at [Our Lady of Mt. Carmel](#) (8040 Cass Avenue, Darien, IL). The guest speaker is Dr. Mary Keen, who will share John Paul II's apostolic letter, *Salvifici Doloris*, on the Christian meaning of human suffering. The event also will include Mass, confessions, and breakout sessions. Registration is required.

Questions?

**Renata Cichowicz**

Phone: 815-221-6245